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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 30 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Sixth Committee

As I am sure you are fully aware, Egypt proposed the convening of a special session of the General Assembly to examine and adopt a United Nations action plan for cooperation against terrorism, as indicated in a letter dated 1 September 2005 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt addressed to the Secretary-General (A/60/329).

We welcome the support given to this idea in the 2005 World Summit Outcome document (A/60/L.1), and believe that the Sixth Committee, during this session, should engage in discussions on the issues related to the convening of the meeting with the aim of elaborating the political declaration that builds on the momentum achieved at the Summit, reflecting international solidarity, enhancing cooperation and solidifying United Nations activities against international terrorism.

To help in achieving such an objective, and in order to facilitate the convening of the special session, please find attached a working paper submitted by Egypt (see annex) containing a preliminary outline of issues that could be considered within the preparation process for the special session.

Since the Sixth Committee will initiate its work next week to focus on reaching an agreement on the comprehensive convention as the legal framework for our efforts to combat terrorism, Egypt believes that the discussion of various elements of a political outcome of the proposed special session is equally important, and we thus propose the consideration of the attached working paper by the Committee within its annual consideration of the sub-item on convening a high-level meeting on terrorism. Naturally, while agreeing that the conclusion of the comprehensive agreement remains at the top of our priorities, a balanced distribution of time between the two items should be observed.

05-53366 (E) 051005

The delegation of Egypt would highly appreciate the circulation of the present letter and its annex as a document of the Sixth Committee, under agenda item 108.

(*Signed*) Maged **Abdelaziz**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex to the letter dated 30 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Sixth Committee

Convening a high-level special session of the General Assembly on cooperation against terrorism

Proposed topics for discussion in preparation for the outcome of the high-level meeting

- A political declaration by Member States condemning terrorism and expressing commitment to combat it.
- A review of successful experiences in the field of combating terrorism, both at the national and regional levels, with a view to outlining an international comprehensive perspective against terrorism, building on the agreement reached in the sixtieth session high-level document (the African Union, the Arab League, the European Union, the Organization of American States and the Group of Eight and others could be invited to share their experiences and achievements in this regard).
- An analysis of the various dimensions of the phenomenon of terrorism and a consideration of ways and means to address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, including political, economic, and social dimensions, with a view to reaching a common understanding on the best manner to confront and suppress terrorism. These conditions include unsettled bilateral regional and international disputes and the role that the United Nations could play in addressing them, along with effective measures to combat terrorism, within a global recognition that terrorism is not linked to any religion, culture or race. This should be in conjunction with other initiatives for dialogue between cultures, civilizations and faith.
- Consideration of new and effective United Nations measures to enhance national capabilities to combat terrorism through supporting national efforts and strengthening international cooperation between States, particularly on criminal matters.
- The elaboration of institutional frameworks within the organization to coordinate such efforts and activities.